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UB PARTNERS DAY

*Clinical Professor George Hezel, CAO
and Hodgson Russ recipients of awards*



Above, left to right:
UB Provost Satish
Tripathi; Professor
George M. Hezel '73;
CEO of the Communit
Action Organization L.
Nathan Hare;
UB President John B.
Simpson and UB Vice
President Marsha
Henderson



UB President John B. Simpson
congratulates Gary Schober, president
and CEO of Hodgson Russ LLP.

Clinical Professor George M. Hezel '73, longtime director of the Law School's renowned Affordable Housing Clinic, and the Community Action Organization of Erie County have been named the recipients of the University Community Partners Award. The award, given for the first time, was presented at a luncheon during UB Partners Day on June 9 at the Adam's Mark Hotel.

The luncheon followed a morning of free workshops and exhibits. These focused on various ways that companies, entrepreneurs and non-profits can benefit when they enter into partnerships with the University at Buffalo.

In addition to honoring Hezel, the University honored the law firm of Hodgson Russ LLP with its Vital Partners Award – the highest honor bestowed on a company by UB – and presented a UB Faculty Entrepreneur Award to Jerome J. Schentag, professor

of pharmaceutical sciences and founder of TheraSyn Sensors Inc.

The keynote speaker was James J. Walter, a senior vice president of Mattel Inc.

According to Dean Makau Mutua, "George Hezel is the first recipient of this new award, which is fitting given his tremendous service.

"It is also wonderful to see Hodgson Russ, which has been so good to this Law School, receive this recognition as well."

Hezel founded the Affordable Housing Clinic at UB Law in 1987 and has directed the clinic since its founding. Along with clinics at Yale and Seton Hall universities, UB has pioneered the field of affordable housing clinics in U.S. law schools, championing a movement to bring practical work experience into the classroom while providing students with meaningful ways to improve their communities.

Collaborating with not-for-profit community-based organizations like the Community Action Organization, UB's Affordable Housing Clinic has leveraged more than \$200 million from federal, state and local government funds, as well as private equity raised through the sale of low-income housing tax credits. It has produced more than 2,000 units of affordable housing in Western New York for low-income families, the elderly, targets of domestic violence and people with disabilities.

Hodgson Russ attorneys Millard Fillmore and Nathan Hall were integral to the formation of UB in 1846, with Fillmore serving at the university's first chancellor. Now the firm employs more than 120 UB alumni, many who have given back through volunteer service on the UB Council, UB Foundation and deans' advisory councils.